













## THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

Report of the Committee on Resolutions at the Cincinnati Convention.

The Committee on Resolutions, by their chairman, Mr. Hallett of Massachusetts, submitted the following report, which was adopted by the Convention:

**Resolved.** That the American Democracy place their trust in the intelligence, the patriotism, and the discriminating justice of the American people.

**Resolved.** That we regard this as a distinctive feature of our political creed, which we are proud to maintain before the world, as the great moral element in a form of government springing from and upheld by the popular will; and we contrast it with the creed and practice of Federalism, which seeks to place the power of the government in the hands of a few, and to make the government a mere instrumentality for the execution of the will of a few.

**Resolved.** That, entertaining these views, the Democratic party of this Union, through their Delegates assembled in a general Convention, coming together in a spirit of concord, of devotion to the doctrine and faith of a free representative government, and appealing to their fellow citizens for the rectitude of their intentions, renew and reassert before the American people, the declarations of principles avowed by them, when, on former occasions, in general Convention, they have presented their candidates for the popular suffrages.

1. That the Federal Government is one of limited power, derived solely from the Constitution; and the grants of power made therein ought to be strictly construed by all the departments and agents of the government; and that it is inexpedient and dangerous to exercise doubtful constitutional powers.

2. That the Constitution does not confer upon the Government the power to commence and carry on a general system of internal improvements.

3. That the Constitution does not confer authority upon the Federal Government, directly or indirectly, to assume the debts of the several States, contracted for local and internal improvements, or other State purposes; nor would such assumption be just or expedient.

4. That justice and sound policy forbid the Federal Government to foster one branch of industry to the detriment of any other, or to cherish the interests of one portion to the injury of another portion of our common country; that every citizen and every section of the country has a right to demand and insist upon an equality of rights and privileges, and to complete and ample protection of persons and property from domestic violence for foreign aggression.

5. That it is the duty of every branch of Government to enforce and practice the most rigid economy in conducting our public affairs, and that no more revenue ought to be raised than is required to defray the necessary expenses of the Government, and for the gradual, but certain extinction of the public debt.

6. That the proceeds of the public lands ought to be applied to the national objects specified in the Constitution; and that we are opposed to any law for the distribution of such proceeds among the States, as alike inexpedient in policy and repugnant to the Constitution.

7. That Congress has no power to charter a national bank; that we believe such an institution one of deadly hostility to the best interests of the country, dangerous to our republican institutions and the liberties of the people, and calculated to place the business of the country within the control of a concentrated money power, and above the laws and the will of the people; and that the results of Democratic legislation in this and all other financial measures upon which issues have been made between the two political parties of the country, have demonstrated to candid and practical men of all parties, their soundness, safety, and utility, in all business pursuits.

8. That the separation of the moneys of the Government from banking institutions is indispensable for the safety of the funds of the Government, and the rights of the people.

9. That we are opposed to taking from the President the qualified veto power, by which he is enabled, under restrictions and responsibilities amply sufficient to guard the public interests, to suspend the passage of a bill whose merits cannot secure the approval of two-thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, until the judgment of the people can be obtained thereon, and which has saved the American people from the corrupt and tyrannical domination of the Bank of the United States, and from a corrupting system of general internal improvements.

10. That the liberal principles embodied in Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence, and sanctioned in the Constitution, which makes ours the land of liberty, and the asylum of the oppressed of every nation, have ever been cardinal principles in the Democratic faith, and every attempt to bridge the privilege of becoming citizens and the owners of soil among us, ought to be resisted with the same spirit which swept the alien and sedition laws from our statute books.

And whereas, since the foregoing declaration was uniformly adopted by our predecessors in National Conventions, an adverse political and religious test has been secretly organized by a party claiming to be exclusively American, it is proper that the American Democracy should clearly define its relations thereto, and declare its determined opposition to all secret political societies, by whatever name they may be called.

**Resolved.** That the foundation of this Union of States having been laid in its prosperity, expansion and pre-eminent example in free Government, built upon entire freedom in matters of religious concernment and no respect of persons in regard to rank or place of birth, no party can justly be deemed national, constitutional, or in accordance with American principles, which bases its exclusive organization upon religious opinions and accidental birth-places. And hence a political crusade in the nineteenth century, and in the United States of America, against Catholics and foreign born, is neither justified by the past history nor the future prospects of the country, nor in union with the spirit of toleration and enlarged freedom which peculiarly distinguishes the American system of popular government.

**Resolved.** That we reiterate with renewed energy of purpose the well considered declarations of former Conventions upon the sectional issue of domestic slavery, and

concerning the reserved rights of the States.

1. That Congress has no power under the Constitution, to interfere with or control the domestic institutions of the several States, and that such States are the sole and proper judges of everything appertaining to their own affairs, not prohibited by the Constitution; that all efforts of the abolitionists or others, made to induce Congress to interfere with questions of slavery, or to take incipient steps in relation thereto, are calculated to lead to the most alarming and dangerous consequences; and that all such efforts have an inevitable tendency to diminish the happiness of the people, and endanger the stability and permanency of the Union, and ought not to be countenanced by any friend of our political institutions.

2. That the foregoing proposition covers, and was intended to embrace, the whole subject of slavery agitation in Congress; and therefore, the Democratic party of the Union, standing on this national platform, will abide by and adhere to a faithful execution of the acts known as the Compromise Measures, settled by the Congress of 1850; "the act for reclaiming fugitives from service or labor," included; which act being designed to carry out an express provision of the Constitution, cannot, with fidelity thereto, be repealed or so changed as to destroy or impair its efficiency.

3. That the Democratic party will resist all attempts at renewing, in Congress or out of it, the agitation of the slavery question, under whatever shape or color the attempt may be made.

4. That the Democratic party will faithfully abide by and uphold the principles laid down in the Kentucky and Virginia resolutions of 1798, and in the report of Mr. Madison to the Virginia Legislature, in 1799; that it adopts those principles as constituting one of the main foundations of its political creed, and is resolved to carry them out in their obvious meaning and import.

And that we may more distinctly meet the issues on which a sectional party, subsisting exclusively on slavery agitation, now relies to test the fidelity of the people, North and South, to the Constitution and the Union—

**Resolved.** That claiming fellowship with and desiring the co-operation of all who regard the preservation of the Union, under the Constitution, as the paramount issue, and repudiating all sectional parties and platforms concerning domestic slavery, which seek to embroil the States and incite to treason and armed resistance to law in the Territories, and whose avowed purposes, if consummated, must end in civil war and disunion, the American democracy recognize and adopt the principles contained in the organic laws establishing the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, as embodying the only sound and safe solution of the slavery question upon which the great national idea of the people of this whole country can repose in its determined conservatism of the Union; non-interference by Congress with slavery in State and Territory, or in the District of Columbia.

2. That this was the basis of the Compromise of 1850, confirmed by both the Democratic and Whig parties in National Conventions, ratified by the people in the election of 1852, and rightly applied to the organization of Territories in 1854.

3. That by the uniform application of this democratic principle to the organization of Territories and to the admission of new States, with or without domestic slavery, as they may elect, the equal rights of all the States will be preserved intact, the original compact of the Constitution maintained inviolate, and the perpetuity and expansion of this Union ensured to its utmost capacity of embracing, in peace and harmony, every future American State that may be constituted or annexed with a republican form of government.

**Resolved.** That we recognize the right of the people of all the Territories, including Kansas and Nebraska, acting through the legally and fairly expressed will of the majority of actual residents, and whenever the number of their inhabitants justifies it, to form a constitution, with or without domestic slavery, and be admitted into the Union upon terms of perfect equality with the other States.

**Resolved.** Finally, that in view of the condition of popular institutions in the Old World, and the dangerous tendency of sectional legislation, combined with the attempt to enforce civil and religious disabilities against the right of acquiring and enjoying citizenship in our own land, the high and sacred duty is devolved with increased responsibility upon the Democratic party of this country, as the party of the Union, to uphold and maintain the rights of every State, and thereby the Union of the States, and to sustain and advance among us constitutional liberty, by continuing to resist all monopolies and exclusive legislation for the benefit of the few, at the expense of the many, and by vigilant and constant adherence to those principles and the compromises of the constitution, which are broad enough and strong enough to embrace and uphold the Union as it was, the Union as it is, and the Union as it shall be in the full expansion of the energies and capacities of this great and progressive people.

First—**Resolved.** That there are questions connected with the foreign policy of the country which are inferior to no domestic question whatever. The time has come for the people of the United States to declare themselves in favor of free seas and progressive free trade throughout the world, and by solemn manifestations, to place their moral influence at the side of their successful example.

Secondly—**Resolved.** That our geographical and political position with reference to the other States of this continent, no less than the interests of our commerce, and the development of our growing power, requires that we should hold as sacred the principles involved in the Monroe doctrine—their bearing and import admit of no misconstruction; they should be applied with unyielding rigidity.

Thirdly—**Resolved.** That the great highway which nature, as well as the assent of the States most immediately interested in its maintenance, has marked out for a free communication between the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans, constitutes one of the most important achievements realized by the spirit of modern times and the unconquerable energy of our people; that result should be secured by a timely and efficient exertion of the control which we have the right to claim over it. And no power on earth should be suffered to impede or clog its progress by any interference with relations that it may suit our

policy to establish between our government and the governments of the States within whose dominions it lies. We can, under no circumstance, surrender our preponderance in the adjustment of all questions arising out of it.

Fourthly—**Resolved.** That in view of so commanding an interest the people of the United States cannot but sympathize with the efforts which are being made by the people of Central America to regenerate that portion of the continent which covers the passage across the inter-oceanic isthmus.

Fifthly—**Resolved.** That the Democratic party will expect of the next administration that every proper effort be made to insure our ascendancy in the Gulf of Mexico, and to maintain a permanent protection of the great outlets, through which are emptied into its waters the products raised out of the soil, and the commodities created by the industry of the people of our Western valleys and of the Union at large.

## NOTICE.

LOST, on the 31st of May, 1856, either on my farm or in Little River, (while fishing,) the following notes: One note of Dr. C. C. Jackson, of Perquimans, for \$81, payable to myself—dated June 6, 1855—due Jan. 1, 1856; one of Harvey Delong for \$125, payable to me, dated Dec. 31, 1855, payable Jan. 1, 1857; one of Thomas B. Weeks for \$45, payable to me, dated Aug. 1, 1853, payable six months after date, with interest from date, with a credit of \$20 entered upon it, April 13, 1854; one of Wm. Tow, for \$55, payable one day after date, to myself, dated March 14, 1856; one of Mr. W. Kone, for \$20, dated Jan. 1, 1850, payable to me on 1st Jan. 1851. Payment upon these notes has been stopped, and this notice is published in order to obtain duplicates thereof, according to law.

J. O. COMMANDER.

Perquimans Co., N. C.

June 24, 1856.

## NOTICE.

The undersigned would inform the citizens of Eliz. City and surrounding country, that he is prepared to do PLASTERING in all its branches, both plain and ornamental—consisting of cornices, plain and arched, ceilings of all kinds, panel enrichments, &c. Also, brick work done with care.

All jobs in the country will meet with prompt attention, by addressing

F. V. HOSKINS.

Eliz. City, Feb. 19, 1856

## RAILS!

FOR SALE, 15,000 Juniper Rails, on North River, Camden County, the Thoroughfare Island. Price \$33 per thousand. Apply to

E. SIMMONS, or

JAMES BRAHLE,

Currituck Co., N. C., April 8, 1856.

## FOR SALE.

The subscriber offers for sale, privately, on very accommodating terms, the staunch and strong tugboat SARAH ANN, now in the employ of the U. S. Fish Commission, and is well fitted for service. Apply to Henry Culpeper, or to the subscriber on board.

JEROME SIMMONS.

Eliz. City, Feb. 5, 1856.

## RAGS.

WANTED IN ANY QUANTITY, for which the highest market price will be paid in Cash.

WHEELWRIGHT & MUDGE

14 Hanover street Baltimore M. D. March 25 1856.—6m

## \$500 REWARD.

STRAYED from the subscriber on the 10th inst. a Dark Brown Horse, with very long ears, and about the nose yellow tint, close built and well put up. I will give the above reward for her delivery or information so that I can get her.

Perquimans Co., N. C. May 27th 1856—9ts pd

## NOTICE.

ALL persons having claims against the estate of Paulina Whelbee, dec'd., are notified to present them to the undersigned, duly authenticated, without delay, for payment, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery.

M. S. DANCE, Adm'r.

June 3, 1856.—6t

## NOTICE.

The co-partnership heretofore existing and doing business under the style and firm of Knox & Jackson is this day dissolved by mutual consent. The business will hereafter be conducted by T. D. Knox, who will be glad to see all of their old customers, and as many more as may give him a call. Those indebted to the late firm will please call on T. D. Knox at the old stand and settle up their old accounts.

T. D. KNOX,

W. H. JACKSON.

June 10, 1856.

## FROM FRANCE.

The largest assortment of Counterpanes, all sizes, of entirely new patterns, which will be sold cheap. Prices running from \$3.50 to \$10. The Bee Hive is the place.

JAMES SMITH.

mh 25 33 Main street Norfolk.

## NOTICE.

THE Farmers' Bank of North Carolina has declared a dividend of 3% per cent for the last six months, payable on and after the 20th inst., subject to the State tax of 25 cents on each share; which amount will be deducted from the dividend.

E. City, July 8, 1856.—3ts

(Sentinel copy)

## SELLING OFF TO CLOSE!

I am selling off my stock, for the purpose of closing the business I am now engaged in, and offer to customers large inducements to trade, and sell at low prices for cash.

Cash required for all goods sold at this date.

J. M. MATHEWS.

E. City July 8th 1856.—3t.

## PAY UP! PAY UP!

ALL persons indebted to me by note or open account, are requested to make payment by August 1st; or I shall place the claims in the hands of an officer for collection.

J. M. MATHEWS.

E. City July 8th 1856.—3t.

## THE OLD DOMINION.

VICKERY & GRIFFITH have received the Dominion or, the Southampton Mass. novel, by G. P. R. James, price 50 cts. History of Hernando Cortez, by Abbott, 65 cts. The Wonders of Science, by Henry Mayne, 75 cts.

Arranged in Duels and Duelling, alphabetically, by Sargento Sabine, \$1.25. Hypothia; or new fables with an old face, by Charles Kingsley. Pictures of Europe, framed in ideas, by C. A. Bartol, \$1.25. Treatise on Punctuation, by Wilson, \$1. The Elements of Character, by M. G. Chandler, 62.

The Lake Shore; or, the Slave, the Serf, and the Apprentice, by Emile Souvestre, author of the Atlantic Philosopher, 75 cts.

## BRICKS FOR SALE.

The subscriber offers for sale a lot of Brick on Little River, on moderate terms.

June 2, 1856.

M. S. PANCE.

## THE DEPOT OF IRON, AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, AND FARMING TOOLS.

IS now being filled with all kinds of Goods in this line, selected recently by one of the proprietors from the largest establishments North and East.

OF IRON, our stock comprises all kinds and sizes suited to the wants of Coachmakers, Blacksmiths, Shipbuilders, and for farm work generally. The quality of it we warrant good. Nails, Spikes, Carriages Springs and Axes, Bolts, &c.

Our stock exceeds any thing ever seen in Virginia, and equals many at the North. We intend to keep everything in the line useful to farmers, and we think that the wants of all can be supplied at short notice. Our arrangements for manufacturing more extensively are nearly completed, and we shall be able to furnish a large majority of implements of our own make, (warranted of the best materials) at satisfactory prices.

All new machines worthy of notice will be received at the Depot by the EXPRESS LINE, and we desire that the farmers of Virginia and North Carolina, should send their orders to our quarters when visiting this city. We ask an examination of our stock, whether in want or not.

We are agents for the "American Farmer," published in Baltimore, and will receive subscribers to that valuable agricultural Journal, issued monthly, at ONE DOLLAR per annum, and by mail.

Manufacturers and Dealers,

No. 11 Widdow Street, Norfolk, Va.

## SPRING AND SUMMER GOODS.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED AND AM prepared to show the most extensive and desirable stock of

Ready Made Clothing

AND SPRING AND SUMMER GOODS

have ever exhibited. My stock embraces every variety of Goods in the Dry Goods and GROCERY LINE. Consisting in part, of the following articles:

Taffetas, Ribbons, Col'd. White Bonnets, Plain White Caps, Col'd. Ribbons, Col'd. Delaines, White do., Plain Ribbons, Col'd. Delaines, Black, and White Gingham Black and White Lawn, Printed Jackones, Organdis, Swiss Robed Lawns, Victoria Lawns, White Swiss Lawn, Col'd. Muslin, Ribbons, Diapers, Br. Holland, White do., Bro. Duck, Blue do., Fine White do., Plain Chamoisette, Farmer's Drill, Cash Silk Handkerchiefs, fancy English Striped Shirts, Howard Duck, Bro. Drills, Putapack Omburgs, Cotton Shirts, Linen Shirts, Printed Cashmere Shirts, Challie de Laines, Plaid Barges, Fig'd. Grenadine, Pink Delaines, Plaid Challie, Fancy Stocks, Embroidered Cape Shawls, Lace Mantles, Black Lace Mantles, Plain Lined Parasols, Hats, Boots, Shoes, and Gaiters of all descriptions.

Persons in want of any of the above articles, or anything in the Dry Goods, Grocery and Ready Made Clothing line, are respectfully requested to call on me, as I can sell goods as cheap as they can be bought in this section of country.

BENJAMIN F. MILLER.

E. City April 15, 1856.

## SPRING AND SUMMER GOODS.

The proprietor of the Union Street Depot, would respectfully announce to the citizens of Elizabeth City and the surrounding country, that he has just returned from the North with the largest, most beautiful, and complete assortment of Spring and Summer Goods, than ever exhibited in the city of Norfolk; and his intention is to sell them as cheap as can be purchased elsewhere.

Having obtained these goods in person, and knowing the wants of the people, he flatters himself that he can suit them better than any other Depot than they can be at any other establishment in the Union. Below we enumerate a few articles of the large assortment of goods that can be found at the Union Street Depot.

Water Coolers, metal and wood, Waterman's Refrigerators, Water Cans, Freezers and Tubs, patent and plain, Basins and Pitchers, Chamber Pails, Ice Picks, Wooden Buckets, Wash Tubs, Lemon Squeezers, Butter Pails, Ice Pitchers, Beefsteak Mallets, Ice Mallets, Bell Dusters, Coconut Nut Dippers, Cash Dishes, Glass Drainers, Preserving Kettles, Perforated Knife Baskets, Turned Tea Kettles, &c.

Tea and Coffee Pots, Patent Self-sealing Cans, Waiters of various sizes and patterns, Calendars, Bill Head Cases and Post Boxes, for Counting Rooms and Stores, Roofing, Guttering and Spouting, done at the shortest notice, of the best materials, and warranted in all cases.

Workmen sent to any part of Virginia or North Carolina to execute work, and to erect buildings, and to do any kind of carpentering. Having two superior workmen, he flatters himself that he can turn out as good a piece of work as any house north or south.

In addition to a large lot of Tin Plate, Pig Tin, Lead Pipe, Street Lead, Copper, Spelter Solder, &c.

CAMPBELL and ETHERIAL OIL, always to be had cheap by the gallon or barrel.

House Furnishing, Tin, Copper, and Stove work, done at the shortest notice.

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## A PROCLAMATION.

By His Excellency THOMAS BRAGG, Governor of the State of North Carolina.

Whereas, an act was passed by the last General Assembly of this State, by a vote of three-fifths of all the members thereof, a duly certified copy of which is as follows:

AN ACT to amend the Constitution of the State of North Carolina.

Whereas, a large number of the people are disfranchised by the freehold qualification now required of voters for members of the Senate—Therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby directed by the authority of the same, (three-fifths of the whole number of members of each House concurring,) That the 2d clause of the 1st section of the 1st article of the amended Constitution, relating to the people of North Carolina on the second Monday of November, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty-five, shall be amended to read as follows: Every free white man of the age of twenty-one years, being a native or naturalized citizen of the United States, and who has been an inhabitant of the State for twelve months immediately preceding the day of the election, and shall have paid public taxes, shall be entitled to vote for a member of the Senate for the district in which he resides.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That the Governor of the State be, and he is hereby directed to be, the proclamer of the act, and to publish the same in the public newspapers of the State, and to cause a true and correct copy of the act, authenticated by the certificate of the Secretary of State, and both the proclamation and the copy of this act, the Governor of the State shall cause to be published in the public newspapers of the State, at least six months before the election of members to the General Assembly.

Read three times and ratified in General Assembly this 30 day of February, 1855.

SAM'L P. HILL,

Speaker of the House of Commons.

WARREN WINSLOW,

Secretary of the Senate.

I, Willam Hill, Secretary of State, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original as ratified and on file in this office.

GIVEN under my hand this 24th day of January, 1856.

W. HILL,

Secretary of State.

Now, therefore, in conformity to the Constitution of the State and the requirements of the aforesaid act, I do issue this Proclamation, commanding the people of North Carolina, to observe the provisions of said act and the amendment thereto proposed to be made to the Constitution of the State, and to do so the same to be published in the newspapers of this State six months before the election of members of the next General Assembly.

In testimony whereof, I, Thomas Bragg, Governor of the State of North Carolina, have hereunto set my hand and official seal, the great seal of the State to be hereto affixed. Done at the city of Raleigh, this 24th day of January, A. D. 1856, and in the 30th year of our Independence.

THOMAS BRAGG,

Governor.

Private Secretary.

Raleigh, January 24, 1856. [Feb 5-6m]

## BOOKS AND STATIONERY.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

VICKERY & GRIFFITH, No. 19

Main street, Norfolk, Va., offer to the city and country trade, the largest stock of Books and Stationery ever before offered in this market.

Believing that the wants of the city and surrounding country, will sustain an establishment conducted on as extensive a scale as those found in the largest cities of the Union, they have been induced greatly to increase their stock, and have, during the last two or three weeks, purchased in the Northern and Eastern markets, (on the very best terms) a large supply of books in every department of literature, together with all foreign and domestic stationery, which they now offer for sale on as good terms as any establishment in the United States, and all together worthy of the patronage of an intelligent community.

They have made arrangements with all the principal publishers of the country, to be supplied with new publications, as soon as issued from the press. They have also obtained the agency of all the leading periodicals published in England and in this country, which they will furnish at the subscription prices.

All foreign books not on hand will be imported to order. V. & G. have connected with their store a very extensive Bookbinding and Blank book Manufactory, and with competent and experienced workmen, they are prepared to manufacture all kinds of Blank Books with punctuality and dispatch, and to bind printed books in the improved